318. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* With reference to question No. 216, dated 31st January 1941, will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether effecting maintenance repairs to the aqueduct wherever necessary was the only matter referred to in the resolutions passed at the meeting of the ryots of Aloor village; and if not,

(*b*) why did not the Chief Engineer visit the place;

(*c*) whether the Chief Engineer has received a letter dated 28th November 1940, from the President of the meeting; and if so,

(*d*) whether he has not stated therein that the figures furnished by Government support his statement that the ryots were losing hope of getting the full benefits of the aqueduct;

(*e*) whether full benefits of constructing the aqueduct can be enjoyed by the ryots if the distribution *chals* are not properly maintained?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*) Copies of the resolutions are placed on the Council table.

(*b*) This irrigation work is a very petty one, the *ayacut* being only of the order 11 or 12 acres. The matter was, however, fully investigated by the Assistant Engineer, Eastern Division, and a copy of his report was forwarded to the President, Mr. K. T. Mathew. According to this report, there was no urgency at the time. Further, no repairs to the structure were possible during the middle of the cultivating season.

(*c*) & (*d*) Yes.

(*e*) It is the duty of the ryots themselves to attend to the petty irrigation channels.

319. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will Government be pleased to state with reference to question No. 216, dated 31st January 1941.—

(*a*) whether the Chief Engineer has considered necessary to visit the place (though not urgently) to redress the grievances of the ryots, according to his convenience; and if so,

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

(*b*) whether he has fixed a convenient time to visit the place; and if so,

(*c*) whether his convenient time has been communicated to the President of the Association; and if not,

(*d*) how many days have elapsed since he received a copy of the resolution passed at a meeting of the ryots of Aloor village requesting him to visit the place;

(*e*) how long he will require to fix a convenient time to visit the place?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) Urgent action is being taken to effect the necessary repairs to the steel trough of the aqueduct. The Chief Engineer will visit the place after the repairs are over to satisfy himself that the work has been done properly.

(*d*) & (*e*) The copy of the resolution was received on 4th October 1940. The season during which the aqueduct will be needed starts only from the middle of August.

320. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* With reference to question No. 217, dated 31st January 1941, will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether Mr. K. T. Mathew, President of the meeting held at Aloor, in his letter, dated 21st November 1940, to the Chief Engineer questioned the statement of the Assistant Engineer that the silt of the distribution *chals* was being cleared by the ryots;

(*b*) whether he has not further stated that the distribution *chals* have not been cleared of silt for a long time;

(*c*) whether he has not stated that the distribution *chals* have become too narrow and partly filled up with silt and that they do not serve the purpose for which they were made;

(*d*) whether the aqueduct will be fully beneficial to the ryots if the distribution *chals* are filled up with silt;

(*e*) whether Government do not collect tax from the ryots for second crop; and if so,

(*f*) whether a part of that amount cannot be utilised for clearing the silt in the distribution *chals* and making the aqueduct fully useful to the ryots?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly